

In Washington, a lawsuit - anti-atomic. Calling on a U.S. federal court - to put a stop to further nuclear tests. The petition - signed by fourteen international figures. Including American scientist Linus Pauling, British philosopher Bertrand Russell, and American Socialist leader Norman Thomas.

The defendants in the lawsuit - are Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission Lewis Strauss, and four other members of the commission. The petition - asking for an injunction to make them stop the nuclear testing.


They^are charged with exceeding authority granted by the Atomic Energy Act of Nineteen Fifty Four. Which law, at the same time - is denounced as unconstitutional, ~~On~~ the ground - that Congress has no power to enact legislation, endangering human lives.

I don't know what a lawyer would say about the legal aspects of this, but it's going to provide an interesting court case. ~~It~~ With the government - opposing any federal

court injunction against atomic testing.

But this legal action in Washington - is only one aspect of the matter. The group of fourteen - also to enter suit in Britain. Calling on the British courts - to outlaw nuclear testing. And they are also going to law - in Soviet Russia, which may provide - the most interesting court case of all.

The Soviets have, of course, announced a suspension of Russian atomic tests. But - only on condition that the United States and Britain follow suit. If not - ~~start~~ atom and hydrogen bomb explosions to be resumed in Russia. So, to eliminate that possibility, the international group - wants to enter suit in Moscow. With an appeal - to the highest court in the Soviet Union.



ADD ATOMIC SUIT

They say - they'll try to enlist Russians as the plaintiffs in the Moscow lawsuit. To see - if Soviet citizens have the courage to take a stand. They'd like to know - if there is "judicial independence" in the land of the Soviets.

Well, maybe they'll find out.

ATOMIC - MARCH

In Britain - an anti-atomic march. Organized - by philosopher Bertrand Russell, playwright-novelist J. B. Priestley, and the Reverend Lewis John Collins, Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, in London. Who sponsored - a huge rally in Trafalgar Square today. Followed - by a parade of several thousand through London streets. The ~~has~~ beginning - of a four-day march to a British atomic weapons plant, fifty ~~is~~ miles from London.

The slogan - "ban the H-bomb". The marchers - carrying banners, calling for an end of British atomic tests.

And - an anti-atomic march in New York. Where five hundred paraded through Times Square, today - carrying placards and chanting slogans. But attracting mighty little attention - as they went marching to the United Nations building. Where they handed in a petition - calling for an end of nuclear testing.

KHRUSHCHEV

In Budapest, today, Khrushchev said - the Soviets will accept international control over nuclear weapons. If that's the only way - to get the United States and Great Britain to halt atomic tests. Khrushchev denying - that the Soviet suspension of tests is a "propaganda maneuver" as charged by the West.

Meanwhile, in Washington, the State department denies the Khrushchev charge - that the United States is obstructing plans for a summit conference. Khrushchev - "distorting" the American position.

EXPLORER THREE

American scientists are still thanking their lucky stars - that Explorer Number Three got into an unexpected orbit. Which, they say, results in information about cosmic rays: more than they ever anticipated.

The American man-made moon, by mistake, went into an orbit that varies remarkably in its distance from this earth. Swinging out - as far as seventeen hundred and forty miles. Coming in as close - as one hundred and seventeen miles. All the while - broadcasting scientific information. So its data concerning cosmic rays gives a pattern. Ranging - from the far distance to the close at hand.

For science - a lucky mishap.

JERUSALEM

A record-breaking number of pilgrims - in Jerusalem,
- singing Gregorian chants, hymns by Haydn,
this Easter time. Five thousand - visiting the Holy places.

Retracing - the Via Del Rosa, the Way of Sorrow, the Way to
Calvary.

Other thousands are due in Jerusalem next week -
when the Greek, Armenian and Coptic churches have their
observance of Easter.

The Middle East - in a state of peril. But there
are more pilgrims in Jerusalem this Easter, than ever before,
in modern times.

The spirit of Good Friday - affected even Monte
Carlo today. The gambling casino - closing down. The first
time - the ~~roy~~ roulette wheels, crap tables and card games
have ever discontinued activities, because of a religious
holiday.

Today's halt of gambling - at the special request
of Prince Rainier and American Princess Grace. Both of them
are devout - in Christian observance.

SOGDIANA

Moscow reports - a curious discovery in the field of language. In a remote valley of Turkestan, a ~~the~~ peasant community - still speaking the language of Sogdiana.

A name - that will strike your ear - if you've been reading recently, about the times of ^{Cy}prus, Darius, and Alexander The Great. When Sogdiana, in Central Asia, East of the River Oxus - was a rich and flourishing land. With - its own language, spoken far and wide.

But, as the centuries went by, the very name of Sogdiana - vanished from the map. The language - disappearing. The whole area - becoming Moslem.

Today's Moscow dispatch states that, in a secluded valley of the Yagnob River, Russian scholars discovered people talking the ancient language of Sogdiana. ^{II} Shades of Cyrus, Darius and Alexander the Great!

CUBA

In Havana, stronghold of the Batista government - a meeting of an underground "council of war". Somewhere in the city - a gathering of leaders of the anti-Batista rebels. This insurgent "council of war" issuing eighteen death sentences. Against persons - condemned as spies. Informers - in the rebel ranks.

One, ^{reported to be} a beautiful television actress - who, they say, was paid - Seven Thousand Dollars a week by the Batista people, ^{for} services - as a spy. Word is that the beautiful television actress - has fled from Cuba.

This ~~is~~ melodramatic report ^{is} regarded as part of the rebel answer to a new peace offer from the government. Last night, the Prime Minister in the Batista cabinet issued a proclamation - that all rebels would be pardoned, if they'd lay down their arms at once. Which offer of amnesty would, presumably - include Fidel Castro- leader of the rebels.

The answer to the peace offer - swift and

unequivocal. A rebel spokesman stating: "We are not interested in any olive ~~branch~~ branch, unless Batista steps down first."

Batista replying - with equal defiance. Telling the United Press reporter- ^{that} ~~the~~ the rebels have no chance of success. Adding: "Castro's days are numbered."


On the insurgent side, they say that Batista hired an American gunman - to kill Castro. As a result of which - the insurgent leader has taken security precautions at his ~~main~~ headquarters, in Oriente Province.

Today, Havana was quiet. Streets deserted - churches crowded for Good Friday. The belief being that the general strike, threatened by the rebels, will not be attempted until after Easter. Assuring peace in Havana - until Monday.

WEATHER

The weather man gave northern California - more bad news, today. Another storm - on its way from the Gulf of Alaska. A new - deluge of rain. Threatening worse floods than ever- especially along the San Joaquin River. Where farmlands are flooded, already - all the way from Los Banos to the Delta of the San Joaquin. A distance - of a hundred miles.

Ever since the ~~begin~~ beginning of the year, northern California has been plagued by an unending series of rain squalls - with heavy snows in the high Sierras. Yesterday, the weather cleared a bit - and, in the region of Donner Pass, marooned skiers ~~were~~ were getting out. Now, however, another storm -on its ~~is~~ way.



ADD WEATHER

President Eisenhower, tonight, named California -
as a disaster area. This, according to Senator Knowland,
the California legislator.

HOUSING

President Eisenhower announced a seven-point program, today - to promote the construction of new housing. One point - the elimination of down-payments on G I home loans, Hereafter, a veteran will not have to make a ~~two~~ two percent payment, previously required by the government. That much eliminated - from the money he does have to put on the line ~~line~~, to purchase a home.

The new White House move - part of multiple activities to check the recession.

RAILROAD

At Albany, the state legislature ~~has~~ has okayed measures - to give the New York Central various kinds of tax relief. The bills - on Governor Harriman's desk, awaiting final action. The New York Central - needing help from the State.

But - how different it was, a hundred years ago. When, in Eighteen Fifty Eight - it looked as if the railroad might assume control of the New York ~~State~~ State Government. An almost unbelievable bit of history - buried in the archives of the past.

In Eighteen Fifty eight, the railroads ~~were~~ were in their early glory. Reaching out - in all directions. The steel rails - bringing new prosperity to one community after another. The railroads - highly popular.

At the same time, people were thoroughly disgruntled - with the New York state government. Because - of a tax hike. So eighty-six angry citizens drew up a petition, proposing a remarkable change.

Abolish the state government - and turn its authority over to the New York Central. Vesting the President and the directors of the railroad - with executive and legal powers *to run the state,*

Does that sound - longy? Well, the history of the period relates - that the petition went through the state legislature. Then ^{was} submitted to the voters - in a referendum. Losing out - by only six thousand, six hundred and thirty votes.

Except for that mere handful of ballots, the New York Central would have become - the state government.

EXECUTIVES

Here's a question - what's an executive? When does an office clerk, maybe a factory foreman - ~~xxx~~ rise to that impressive dignity? Executive - the proud title for a business big-shot.

Today's answer comes from the U S Department of Labor, which says - Eighty Bucks a Week. You ~~must~~^{can't} be an executive - unless you get that much.

12 Of course, a bus driver might get eighty bucks a week, or more - but he's not an executive. You've got to execute something - I don't know exactly what, except perhaps in the case of the executioner. But an executive ~~is~~ gives orders, I suppose - and he must make at least eighty dollars a week.

The definition comes from the Department of Labor - because of a technicality in the labor law. Which requires, among other things - that workers must be paid time-and-a-half for overtime. But - not if they're executives, ^{Don,} You don't

have to pay an executive - any over time at all. Which adds,

I suppose, to the dignity of the position.

CAPTAIN

An Army court of appeals - reverses the conviction of Captain Wilson Shepard of Long Branch, New Jersey. Found guilty - by a court-martial in Nineteen Fifty-six. His offense - a weighty one. Telling a fib - which was a heavy misdeed.

At Fort Carson, Colorado - a slenderizing program for overweight officers. Called - the Fat Boy program. Captain Shepard - ordered to reduce to a skimpy two hundred. The Captain - six-foot-three. Weight - three hundred pounds.

So the Captain began to reduce - diet, exercise, and all that. Finally reporting - that he tortured himself down to two-hundred-and-forty-five. But, when they got him on the scales, he was a stout - two-hundred-and-eighty-four.

~~His report, minimizing his weight - a falsehood.~~

So he was court-martialed for under-estimating his avoirdupois. Convicted - and sentenced to dismissal from the service, and a loss of pay.

All of which - is now tossed out by the U S Military

court of appeals. Which, however, does not endorse - the ponderous waistline, the paunch, the jowls. ~~But~~ merely says - the misrepresentation under the Fat Boy program did not come under the heading of military law. *And s-l-u-mon.*

~~I'll take a chocolate cake with whipped cream.~~